BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

PEDER COLOR COLOR

Julia Brownley for Congress 728 W. Edna Place, Covina, CA 91722

Complainant,

v.

Strickland for Congress 2012 603 E. Alton Ave, Ste. H Santa Ana, CA 92705, and

Matthew Doheny 303 Paddock St. Waterton, NY 13601, MUR# 6646

Respondents.

COMPLAINT

Complainant files this complaint under 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(1) against Anthony Strickland, Strickland for Congress 2012 and Matt Doheny. The record demonstrates that the Committee accepted contributions from individuals in excess of the \$2,500 per election limit in violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act ("the Act") and Federal Election Commission ("Commission") regulations.

A. Facts

Anthony Strickland is a candidate for Congress in the Twenty-Sixth District of California. His principal campaign committee is Strickland for Congress 2012 ("the Committee"). He participated in the California primary election on June 5, 2012. Matt Doheny is a two-time Congressional candidate: in 2010 he was a candidate in New York's Twenty-Third Congressional District, and he is currently a candidate in New York's Twenty-First Congressional District.¹

On July 15, 2012, the Committee filed its July Quarterly Report, covering the period of May 17 through June 30, 2012. The report shows that on June 28, 2012, after the date of the primary, the Committee accepted a total of \$5,000 in contributions from Doheny, with \$2,500 allocated to the primary and \$2,500 allocated to the general election. The Committee also accepted a total of \$5,000 in contributions from David Hilty on the same day, again with \$2,500 allocated to the

Doheny's campaign website identifies himself as the founder of North Country Capital LLC, which corresponds to the employer and occupation information reported by the Committee. See http://doheny4congress.com/meet-matt-doheny.

primary and \$2,500 allocated to the general. The relevant pages of the July Quarterly Report are attached as Attachment A.

B. Legal Analysis

Under the Act and Commission regulations, candidate committees may not accept contributions from individuals which exceed \$2,500 per election. 2 U.S.C. § 441a(a)(1)(A); 11 C.F.R. § 110.1(b). Unless designated otherwise by the contributor, a contribution counts toward the next election after the contribution is made. 11 C.F.R. § 110.1(b)(2)(ii). Contributions may not be designated for an election that has already occurred unless the contribution does not exceed net debts outstanding and the contributor designates the contribution for debt retirement from that election. Id. § 110.1(b)(2)(iii).

Here, the Committee received \$5,000 in contributions from both Matt Doheny and David Hilty on June 28, 2012. To give for the primary election, Doheny and Hilty must have made their contributions on or before June 5, and Strickland must have deposited them within 10 days of receiving them. See id. § 103.3(a). It strains credulity that both donors could have issued their checks on primary day, only for both of them to languish in the mail for nearly two weeks before receipt and deposit. And Strickland plainly had no debts for which the contributions could have been intended to retire: his July Quarterly Report showed \$0 in debts and obligations, and \$1,006,154.90 cash-on-hand. The only reasonable conclusion from the report – which the Committee filed under penalty of false statement – is that Strickland illegally took excessive contributions.

C. Conclusion

We respectfully request the Commission to investigate these violations, including whether they were knowing and willful. Should the Commission determine that Respondents have violated the Act, we request that they be enjoined from further violations and be fined the maximum amount permitted by law.

Sincerely,

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this /

Voter Public

My Commission Expires:

1400 2015

ROBERT D. KESSINGER
Commission # 1952504
Notary Public - California
Ventura County
My Comm Syptics Oct 14, 2015

tmage# 12952475006

O Attachment-A

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